

Valentine Crawford to George Washington, May 13, 1774, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM MR. VALENTINE CRAWFORD.

GISTS ¹ the 13th of May 1774

DEAR SIR

to Lett you Now all your Sarvents is well and None Runaway Mr Simson has got as Meney of the Carpenters as he Can fine work for and hes got Som of the Sarvents Esisting about the Seat for the Mill till this Storm of the Indens Blows over

we this day Receved Som News from wheeling and Severall of the Inhabitanes of that part is gon Back and planten of there Corn David Shephard² that Lives down att wheeling Moved his fameley up to My house but he is gon back him Selfe and is planting of his Corn So I am Shore if he Can Stay att wheeling I Can goe down with your men and goe to worke untill the on your Land Butt tell My Son whence I have Sent to you Returns I Shall Lett Mr Simson Keep all the Men he Chuses both Carpenters and Sarvents as for the Labour[er]s I Employd both for you and Docter Crake I have dischargd [them] and they are gon with My brother william under pay as Militia to gard the people down about Shirtee to get there Stocks away as meney of the Inhabitanes Ran away and Left Every thing they had behind them butt there is Numbers of them Sene Returning back and planting there Corn butt has Left there wifes and Children behind them in our Neighbourhood So I would fain hope to goe down yeat if we have No worse News in a Short time butt waights for My

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Son Returning with an answer from you I wrote you very fully by him and Write this Line or two by Mr Johnson³ as he wase agoing Straight to williamsburg where he would meet with you So pray wright Me verey fully how I am to act and I am dear Sir your Most Hble Servt.

VALE: CRAWFORD NB

I Saw Som Jentlemen Who Cam verey Letly from williamsburg att My house Last Night and they Say there will [be] a New County take pleac and the Lordonmore⁴ has Set for the procklimation that he will find both Men and Money to Defend our Counties So as I gave you a hint before I hope you wont ferget me and My Son as we are determed to Stay on the frounteers and a Comition would be of great adventage to us and it will ad to the favours from

VC

1 Now Mount Braddock, Fayette County, Pa., the former home, it will be remembered, of Christopher Gist, the first white settler west of the Alleghany Mountains. Gist was not alive at the above date.—BUTTERFIELD.

2 David Shepherd was long a prominent citizen of the West. As Lieutenant of Ohio County, Va., he rendered very efficient service, during the Revolution, in protecting the country along the Ohio River, above and below Wheeling, from savage incursions.—BUTTERFIELD.

3 Addressed, "pr favour of Mr Ben Johnson."

4 Lord Dunmore.